

Pilot Project

What We Learned

(That can help us today!)

Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Program (HDSP)
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services

“This ain’t our first rodeo!” Dr. Jermyn

(Could you guess that he’s a native Texan?)

Almost four years ago, HDSP focused on acute stroke system development to improve outcomes and patient care. Three things focused our attention:

- 1. Brain Attack Coalition: Talked about systems to support rapid identification and treatment of stroke. They published recommendations to establish Primary Stroke Centers.**
- 2. CDC: Began talking to the states about stroke systems development.**
- 3. Joint Commission: Began certifying Primary Stroke Centers.**

We needed to do our homework and began a two-year Pilot Project.

Pilot Project Design

Utilized Two Different Approaches:

1. More v. Less Prescriptive Model
2. Contracts issued in areas with similar economics, population mix, and access to health care

Contractors were required:

1. To develop a Stroke Coalition and invite members to represent certain system components; but they could invite as many members as they wanted.
2. To make a System Development Plan using evidence-based or proven strategies, and then implement their plan.
3. The experiment was to see what they would accomplish. Both groups were charged with learning and working on their own.

Pilot Project

First Pilot Group Requirements:

- The coalition have representation from all system components.
- At least one project for each system component.
- We required they discuss longevity and make a plan to be self-sustaining at conclusion of the pilot.

First Pilot Group Observations:

- They remain enthusiastic about their system development progress and continue to invite new members with new ideas.
- This coalition is active today! ...**it wasn't always easy !**

Pilot Project

Second Pilot Group Requirements:

- The coalition have members representing hospital, neurology, and primary care. At their discretion, they could invite other members.
- We DID NOT require a broad range of projects, but didn't discourage them from expanding their scope.

Second Pilot Group Observations:

- They lost interest and disbanded before the pilot project ended.
- Did I mention...**this isn't easy?**

What We Learned

- If areas work separately, without a certain amount of direction, some may be successful, *some won't*. Missouri probably won't build timely statewide access to a coordinated system.
- State leadership and direction can provide a system framework that focuses on timely intervention and impacting outcomes.
- A system is never complete. We must continue to invite and listen to experts from around the state. These experts can form an on-going advisory group to continue improving what we build today.

What We Learned

Value the role of ALL System Members

Great **out-of-hospital** coordination won't get your patient to timely treatment if the patient reaches a hospital that isn't prepared to provide the right care in the right amount of time.

Great **in-hospital** collaboration won't get your patient to timely treatment if the out-of-hospital system didn't reach the right place in the right amount of time.

“This ain’t our first rodeo!” Dr. Jermyn

To build the best for Missouri, our Pilot Project taught us to invite all the experts... listen and learn.

Dr. Bill Jermyn introduced HDSP to experts we hadn’t met when we conducted the Pilot Project, members of Missouri’s Trauma System!

They are experts with 20 years of Missouri system-building experience...what worked and what didn’t work as well.

We can learn from experts who built a statewide system that focuses on getting the patient to the right place, in the right amount of time, for the right care... a time-critical diagnosis system!

We Need You:

- Share your ideas! ...then, listen to the other ideas.
- Look at the entire system as we plan.
- If you know someone who should be here, invite them!
- Stick with it! You are part of the product. Improvement is on-going.

Time Critical Diagnosis System

It's time to begin!

It may not be easy... but it is worth the effort!



Right Place. Right Time. Right Care.